

## THE EVENING FARMER

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C. A. MENET, Representative.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1909.

HEAVY PRESSURE OF  
PUBLIC SENTIMENT NEEDED

The Bridgeport Business Men's Association has voted to ask for repeal of the law which provides that "no person or corporation, unless acting under authority from the General Assembly, shall, in any city or town of this state whose population exceeds fifteen thousand, manufacture for sale any electricity for purposes of lighting or power, but this section shall not prevent such manufacture for the purpose of the business, or for the use of the manufacturer for the sale thereof, as in the same premises."

The purpose of this law is the protection of electric lighting and power companies from competition, unless by specially chartered companies. Its effect is monopoly, except in cases where the electricity is produced and sold "in the same premises." A measure, introduced at the instance of the electric companies and intended to strengthen the law, with such amendments as would antagonize what it has been withdrawn. Now, business men ask for repeal of the law and there will probably be a warm contest.

A circular, emanating from the local business men's association and advocating repeal, says:

But so long as it is on the books, it is a club in the hands of electric companies to prevent you from either selling or buying electricity from your neighbor or from any one else in your block who could furnish it to you at a saving.

Now they are on the defensive. The rights of manufacturers and merchants are being pressed as against those of consumers. It takes away from the electric interests none of their rights and privileges. It only subverts the interests of the private citizen, the manufacturer, and the merchant.

The repeal measure has "a hard row to hoe," and its supporters must bring a heavy pressure to bear upon the General Assembly, and particularly the Judiciary committee, if they would succeed. This General Assembly was passed in favor of the public service corporations in order to prevent the creation of a public utilities commission, and there is a strong suspicion that Speaker Banks similarly packed the Judiciary committee. The electric companies have thus "the inside track," and nothing less than a heavy pressure of public sentiment can push through the repeal bill.

As to the merits of the proposed repeal, is there room for a negative opinion?

The Interstate Commerce Commission finds that a syndicate of railroads controls certain coal-mining fields, and goes even to the length of refusing truck connections to mines not under its control. Such being the case there seems to be grounds for prosecution under the "restraint of trade" decision of the U. S. Supreme court.

Five members of the Turpentine Trust have been convicted of conspiring to monopolize interstate trade. Of course, their cases will be appealed, and it will be strange if keen attorneys do not devise means to relieve them of the penalties. Rare indeed are the cases in which trust officials fail to escape punishment. It sometimes seems to the layman that intentional "topholes" appear in the laws.

"Asphalted Washington being as hot as a tropical city in the summer months," says the N. Y. Sun, a movement to so change the hours of department clerks as to permit escape from the midday heat is in progress. A similar complaint as to asphalt pavement may be made in other cities. It appears to draw and radiate the heat of the sun more freely than other pavements, but with brick a close second, and in the summer months the discomfort to home owners is very considerable.

The "Interests" evidently intend, if they can, to control the conference committee which will deal finally with tariff revision. There are some Republican members of Congress, however, who will vote against the conference report unless it really revises the tariff downward in accordance with campaign pledges. The "Interests" are now endeavoring to secure the appointment of Lumberman Fordney of Michigan to the conference committee in place of Mr. Hill who favors free trade; the object is obvious. They mean to pack the conference committee with opponents of lower duties and the new bill shall be practically

the Dingley tariff or worse. And there is really some danger that they will succeed.

Life imprisonment for Boyle, kidnaper of the Whittie boy, and 25 years imprisonment with \$5,000 fine for Mrs. Boyle, illustrates Pennsylvania justice. That state is the most advanced of all in the matter of child kidnapping, and furnishes a most commendable example for other states. Life imprisonment is not too severe; many parents hold that death should be the penalty, and when the demand for ransom is accompanied by threats of murder, it is most assuredly not too severe.

Business interests are demanding early action upon the tariff question, declaring that uncertainty is holding industrial revival back, which is apparently true. But the Senate has "no previous question" and no committee on Rules clothed with arbitrary power to limit debate, and thus the Senators can "talk themselves out." It seemingly matters little to them that business men say in effect, "Let the Dingley law live under a new name, and get to business." That is, business interests would prefer the continuance of the Dingley tariff over continued uncertainty. Senators are talking interminably, not with any expectation of changing each other's views, but solely to reach and influence their constituents. It is wholly unnecessary, for their constituents will judge them by their votes and not by their words, and are much better posted on the tariff question than ever before.

They will be judged by the compliance or non-compliance with their party platform, with, on the Republican side, regard also to the utterances of President Taft, who, on Dec. 16th last, said:

"Unless we act in accordance with our promises, or if we only keep the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope, we shall be made accountable to the American people and suffer such consequences as failure to keep faith has always brought down upon us. It would be better to have no revision at all unless we are going honestly and fairly to revise the tariff on the basis promised by our party."

The Senate is not revising the tariff in accordance with the President's warning; but in almost exact opposition to its gist. If something does not drop at the next election, President Taft cannot be classed as a prophet.

INFLAMMATORY RHEUMATISM  
CURED IN 10 DAYS.

Morton L. Hill, of Lebanon, Ind., says: "My wife had inflammatory rheumatism in every muscle and joint; her suffering was terrible and her body and face were swollen almost beyond recognition; had been in bed for six weeks and had eight physicians, but received no benefit until she tried Dr. Deitch's Relief for Rheumatism. It gave immediate relief and she was able to walk about in three days. I am sure it saved her life." Sold by Curtis Pharmacy, 114 Main St., Elm.

## STRATFORD

No Candy Store—A Whist Prize—Club Gossip—Elm Bees—Meetings This Evening—Memorial Day Coming—Personal Mention.

Alden Coe has left town for a visit to friends in Great Barrington.

The rumor that a candy store is to be opened in the Porter building, "fill a long felt want," appears to be without foundation. There is little room for a candy store in town, since all the drug stores deal in candy, and lolly pops can be had at the Sammis emporium.

For the whist last night given by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, three gallons of ice cream were ordered. And one of the unique prizes was a portrait of Father O'Connor surrounded by a highly polished and beautiful horseshoe made by John McGahey, the whole set in a golden frame. The prize was exhibited in the show window of the Hughes news room and attracted much attention.

The salary of the sexton of the Methodist church is said to be \$35 per annum.

Posters are out announcing a rummage sale on the 14th inst., at the chapel of the Congregational church, the proceeds for the Women's Aid Society.

The funeral of Mrs. William Smith, who died from the effects of an operation at the Bridgeport hospital last Monday morning, took place this afternoon from her late residence on East Main street. She is survived by her husband, who is employed on the Mill place at Paradise Green. A son is a clerk at Howland's, in Bridgeport.

The Men's Club gave a vote of thanks to Rev. Henry Hallam Tweedy for his lecture on Kipling.

Extensive concrete walks are being laid around the grounds of the Judge Curtis place, and the lawn is being regraded.

The new officers of the Men's Club, elected Monday night, are: President, Deacon A. G. Baldwin; secretary, W. A. Lewis; treasurer, W. A. Lewis; committee on entertainment, Rev. Arthur Shirley, N. E. Wells and E. A. Beecher.

Already Mrs. Frank M. Patterson of this town has sold 27 tickets for the whist she is to give for the benefit of the proposed Elm Bees Club, on Tuesday and tomorrow evening the minstrels of the Red Men will indulge in rehearsals.

The Woodmen of the World will start a local camp. There are now so many camps, tents, trails, clubs, and stars in town they tread on each other's toes.

The latest club talked about is a pigeon shooting.

One doesn't hear much this spring about local horses being sent to Nutmeg Driving Park to engage in the spring races.

It is said that since Father O'Connor's denunciation of baseball playing on Sunday at Avon Park, one of our local teams has disbanded.

Land near Avon Park is to be cut up into building lots.

grounds on Blakeman Place with a hedge of flowers.

Last evening at the residence of Mrs. George Smith on Barnum avenue, there was a church meeting of the Bethany Sunday school.

Miss Sarah Mitchell has recovered from an attack of tonsillitis.

Mrs. George A. Fairchild is no longer on the sick list.

The official board of the Methodist church held a meeting last evening. Naturally the financial question was uppermost.

Percy Howland has rented a house on Long Brook avenue, now one of our select and popular residences.

John Louis Thompson, a Stratford boy, has returned to Hartford from an extensive Western trip in connection with insurance matters.

The honor roll list continues to grow wonderfully in length. Almost every town is on some list or other.

The executive committee of Stratford Memorial day observances are requested to meet at the town clerk's office at 8 o'clock this evening.

The committee from the Veterans comprise Alonzo A. Gray, James S. Hubbell, Charles Gilbert, Charles Curtis, J. H. Blakeman, Sons of Veterans: Harry S. Hubbell, William Morehouse, Frank L. Curtis, J. E. Beardsley and Edward Roberts.

## FAIRFIELD

The Oil Question—Reports of Expenses Wanted—Runaway Horse—Meeting of the Clergy—Bound Over for Stealing—Beach News.

Speaking of the town meeting on Monday night when most of the objects for which the meeting was called were laid on the table, men about town are of the opinion that at first the citizens were disposed to grant the request of the selectmen for an additional appropriation of \$1,500 which to oil macadamized roads and keep them in repair. But some gentlemen wished to know how the money was to be raised, and if a plain and convincing statement of facts and figures could have been presented, all would have been well. The present board of selectmen is a new one and has not long been in office. The expenditures for roads is said to have begun with the old board, and it will be necessary to consult with it before a full account can be rendered. Probably the town treasurer can give a more detailed account of all expenditures. As matters stand the inference is that as soon as the selectmen get their report ready, and show what has been done with the money already expended, another meeting can be called, and the money asked for will be granted. During the meeting, Mr. Bacon Wakeman asked the town to give the new Fair Field Athletic club the use of the southerly portion of the village green, at a rental of a year, and to authorize the selectmen to permit the club to use the ground for the purposes indicated. The meeting agreed to this.

Some of the citizens of Southport said a few days ago they wished that State street and Taconic avenue in that town, in the business section at least, could be oiled that the dust may be kept down. The trouble is these streets are not macadamized, and it is feared that if a dirt road is oiled, it would wash too much. The rains would probably carry the oil off.

Mr. Samuel Wheeler is having his house repaired.

There was a bit of excitement at the center yesterday when a horse attached to Low's laundry wagon, broke from the vehicle and dashed "madly," as they say, up Elliott street.

The horse had been taken to a blacksmith shop at the center, and was being detached from the wagon, when something frightened it, and off it went, the harness dropping and the beast at various places. Several men, one in an automobile, started in pursuit, but were unable to find the animal. It is supposed it took what is called the back road leading to Bridgeport.

The grading having been finished about the library building, the fences have been set back, much to the improvement of the place.

Not far from 50 clergymen came into town yesterday morning to attend the annual meeting of the Con-association. A business meeting was held at the Congregational church, during the forenoon, and a beautiful luncheon provided by the church, was served at noon in the Sunday School room. After dinner the gentlemen adjourned to the First Congregational church in Bridgeport.

Yesterday Town Clerk Flint spent the day at Greenwich, at the Bankers' office where he received taxes from the local residents.

At least two men who have been employed by the town, in the grading roads, were seen lying drunk in the grass, back of a barn near Broad St., on Tuesday. Would it not be a good thing to employ men who do the work and do not get drunk as soon as they receive their wages?

The two roads which the selectmen wished to oil were the Stratford and the Tuxis Hill road.

Some of the clergymen who came into town yesterday, seeing what a fine condition Main street is in, remarked: "This place is up to date."

The case of State vs. Walter Donahue, came up yesterday before Justice Wakeman, Attorney Clitus King acting as prosecutor. Donahue was charged with stealing certain bills and pool balls from the fire department house in Southport, on the 5th of March last. The authorities have been on the look out for the thief ever since, and yesterday he was brought in. The balls were found at Peck's pawn shop in Bridgeport. They arrived there the day after the theft, and corresponded in number with those which had been stolen. Donahue, it appeared from the testimony, had quite a "tag" on the night of the stealing. He had been found in a certain well known saloon in Southport, and claims that he spent most of the night at the depot. He lost his hat, and says someone sold him a new one, and he went to get it and found it full of billiard balls. He couldn't imagine how they got there he was so full of joyal spirits. But he froze to them, and took them to Bridgeport. As their value was above \$25 he was bound over to appear before the Superior court in Bridgeport which opened yesterday.

Lewis Schmidt of Pilot cottage, has arrived at the beach from Danbury. He came down yesterday in his automobile.

Mr. William G. Wynn, of Anchor cottage, has arrived from New York. Mr. Beckley of the Surf Side cottage arrived to-day from New York.

Mr. James R. Wilkinson and Mr. Hermann Pitzer, from Brooklyn, are at the Pitzer cottage.

To-day the Town Clerk will be at the Swiss drug store in Southport, to collect taxes from the local residents, and thus save them a journey to the center of the town.

About the middle of this month, say the D. D. 1909, it is announced that the Beachside Inn will be opened by Geo. A. Miller.

This week the King's daughters of Southport meet with Mrs. A. H. Bowlers.

At the Mothers' Day services at the Greenfield Hill church last Sunday, Miss Edna Bulkley sang "Mother, Rock Me to Sleep Once More," the famous and delightful poem by Mrs. Akers. The pulpit was decorated with white carnations, marguerites and jonquils.

Mr. Olmstead in his sermon spoke of Ahah's mother and Timothy's.

As the town has on hand a fund of \$432 which can be used for the repairing of bridges, there will be no difficulty in putting Mill River bridge in good order.

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